that Glybenclamide does not fulfil any exclusion criteria of the Kelkar Committee;

(e) whether it is a fact that due to non-inclusion of Glybenclamide under price control, producer is able to overcharge the consumer by Rs. 8 crores;

(f) if so, by when the drug would be included under price control list; and

(g) what is the quantity of Glybenclamide tablets sold by M/s. Hoechst after the decontrol of drug?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Liability of M/s. Hoechst India Ltd. in respect of Glybenclamide upto December, 1983 would be finalised after getting the full details from the company which are awaited.

(c) and (d) Recommendations of the Standing Committee in respect of Glybenclamide are still under consideration of the Government.

(e) and (f) The turnover of individual formulations is not monitored by the Government and so long as Glybenclamide is outside price control manufacturer is free to charge its own price without any prior approval from the Government.

(g) The recommendation of the Standing Committee in this behalf is under consideration of the Government.

Popularising use of Turmeric

2845. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Scientists of National Institute of Nutrition have recently found Turmeric to have anti-cancer properties;

(b) whether large scale field trials have been done on human beings to establish the efficacy of the herb if so, what are the details of the findings; and

(c) what measures are being taken/proposed to popularise use of this herbal preparation for our health care system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Studies conducted at the National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR), Hyderabad have shown that turmeric has anti-mutagenic effect in animals.

(b) A pilot study in smokers using turmeric tablets revealed that it can reduce mutagenic substances in urine. Large scale field studies havenot been undertaken. It is necessary to do more studies before this can be appiled to human beings.

(c) The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has made efforts to popularise its clinical application in simple forms through the books on home remedies and herbal medicines and other publications.

Eradication of Guineaworm Disease

2846. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 128 lakh people are affected by Guineaworm every year in India as reported in Pioneer Lucknow of 29th June, 1990 ;

(b) if so, what are the State-wise figures of incidence during the last three years, year-wise ;

(c) whether Government have worked out any plan to eradicate

this disease; if so, what are the details thereof : and

(d) whether NGO's will also be involved in planning and implementation of eradication programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD) : (a) and (b) The Government has seen the report appeared in Pioneer Lucknow of 29th June, 1990. The figure of 128 lakh people stated to have been affected in the news item is incorrect. The National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi has informed that in 1989 only 7881 persons were affected wtth guineaworm disease and in 1990 till June, 3645 persons have been affected with the disease.

The state-wise figures for the last three years and also for the current year are as under :—

State wise Guineaworm cases

G.W. Endemic States	1987	1988	1989	1990 (till June)
Andhra Pradesh	1122	407	224	191
Gujarat	164	27	6	22
Karnataka	2405	1909	896	608
Madhya Pradesh	3285	2565	1408	212
Maharashtra	2159	1496	475	183
Rajasthan	7896	5619	4872	2429
TOTAL:	17031	12023	7881	3645

(c) The strategy for eradication of the disease includes active guineaworm case searches and case management, provision and maintenance of safe drinking water supply, health education and development of manpower. The "Eradication of Guineaworm" is also included as a Sub-Mission under the National Technology Mission on drinking Water.

During the current financial year 1990-91 there is a budget provision of Rs. 60/- lakhs. This amount is meant for (i) cash assistance to the endemic States for P.O. active case searches, Printing of Heatlth Education material and salary etc.

(ii) Commodity grants—supply of temephose to the endemic states for the treatment of unsafe drinking water sources etc.

(d) Yes.